

NEIGHBORS, continued from Page A1

getting more traffic and involvement, including from people not even in school. They are characters, I'll put it that way. They're smoking something. They hide and smoke whatever they're smoking. If they lock the gate, our problem is solved."

Anderson agreed with Catlow's assertion a mudhole is being formed by students.

"There is car parking on Mike's property, making a mudhole," Anderson said. "They are parking in front of the fire hydrant and making noise."

Police chief John Teague was disappointed to hear of the problem.

"Sandy Drive was a problem for 30 years until we solved it last year," Teague said. "Evidently it moved your way, which is unfortunate. We don't want to see it in your neighborhood. I don't see the difficulty in locking the gate offhand. I know we — and the school — have an interest in being good neighbors."

Councilor Amy Ryan said students are having to find additional places to park this year.

"It sounds like we have a parking problem," Ryan



KEIZERTIMES/Craig Murphy
Charles Anderson (right) has started a petition signed by neighbors like Michael Catlow (left)

said. "Maybe we need to find another solution for parking. The issues have changed this year, which is important to note. It's not just the loitering like we had before."

Siri Scales, the youth councilor from MHS, confirmed a parking change has helped build the problem.

"There is a huge parking issue on campus," Scales said. "It's led to the issue of students walking around your properties, causing problems. Sophomores can now park on campus. In the past, they couldn't park on campus."

Mayor Cathy Clark said the issue would be followed up on, both with police and the school.

"Clearly there is a capacity issue at the school," Clark said. "We need well placed reminders for students about what is and what is not appropriate behavior. Sgt. Trevor Wenning is more than willing to be instructive. We've seen commitment on the part of our police to follow through."

"I want to tell you how much I appreciate you bringing your concern here," the mayor told the neighbors. "When people park in front of your driveway, that's the time to call. That helps us address the problem in real time. Say something."

Jacquelyne Downer, another Newberg Drive resident, noted she has lived in her house for 49 years.

"This is the worst it has been," Downer said. "Between the cars and the parking, this is out of hand. It's never been this bad. If they block my driveway, I'll have their car towed. They are also blocking the fire hydrant. I think it's fine people are meeting with the principal and Trevor, but their hands are tied. Max Court used to have a big padlock and we didn't have the parking problems then. When the gate was unlocked, we had problems. How come you took the padlock down?"

Clark noted the outcry from citizens two years ago led to the locked gate on Sandy.

"The things we heard from people on Sandy made my hair stand on end," the mayor said. "With the behaviors of some of the youth, locking the gates finally got some of the behaviors to stop."

TRIP: 'I want to get 50 people interested...'

(Continued from pg. A1)

The MHS students — Maret, Shore, Robbins, Chloe Sheffield, Megan Schneider, Ivon Ortiz, Ashley Maceira, Bryanna Anhalt, Abigail Devlin, Cassidy Brunkal, McKenzie Beard and Jannicke Martin — were each paired up with another Celt and then put into a larger group of students from across the country. Each of the groups went to different places on different days. Students arrived in D.C. on March 20 and returned home that Friday.

"Close Up is the longest-running program for student involvement," Kirch said. "It's been at least six or seven years since McNary did it."

Maret, Robbins and Shore — three of the eight sophomores on the trip — want to return next year. Not only that, but they want more Celtics to join them.

"I want to get 50 people interested for next year and I want at least 20 on the group going," Maret said. "We had a mock Congress, which was a great experience. We were talking about bills that are affecting us. We got to argue about bills and see what is better for us. They have classes about this (in other schools). I'm happy I got to go, but I want it to be a big deal here. It's a great trip."

Robbins said the experience exceeded her expectations.

"I thought it would be a tour guide, but it was more like having class for a week," Robbins said. "We had 25 in our group. Seeing all the kids and hearing their viewpoints and learning from them was the big part for us. A lot of us had had government classes here, but hearing from another point of view, from someone who's from Boston, was great."

For Shore, the trip brought things and people — including U.S. Rep. Kurt Schrader from Canby — to life.



Photo courtesy Jordy Maret
Among other things, the McNary students visiting D.C. got to chat with U.S. Rep. Kurt Schrader (center).

"I learned our representative is a real person," Shore said. "He was really funny. It was weird seeing all the buildings up close that you've read about. They were there. You could touch them. They're not just in a book."

Maret was apprehensive at first about being around so many new people, but ended up quickly bonding with some Puerto Rican students in her group.

"It ended up being so much fun being with the different kids," Maret said. "We were able to explore for ourselves. One thing I learned about myself was I'm able to make friends quickly. Also, the White House was a lot smaller than I thought it would be. It was like a big house. One other thing I learned was the government works differently than I have heard from my parents and other kids. They talk about how bad the Democrats are, but our representative (Schrader) is a Democrat and he was cool. He's actually a funny guy. I found we have some of the same viewpoints as well."

Maret and Robbins had already signed up to compete for junior class president, but the trip inspired them to do more.

"I want to get involved in school more," Robbins said. "I want to have a say for the

junior class. I thought it would be a good opportunity."

Kirch had taken groups at a previous school on the trip and knew this year's students would get a lot out of it.

"The civic education is the big thing," said Kirch, noting students paid about \$2,000 each to go. "Their experience is so much more than just a tour. It's the civic education part, learning about their role in our society. It's a life changing experience. I was happy for them to have the opportunity. Now we have girls who can share about the trip with their peers. We can start planting the seeds for next year. Maybe we could do a Close Up club, maybe working with our government classes."

"It was awesome," the teacher added. "To see their growth in five days in terms of confidence, leadership skills and the academic conversations with students around the country is outstanding. I was really proud of them."

If Maret has her way, Kirch will have more students to be proud of next year.

"I'm happy I had the opportunity to go," Maret said. "I want it to blow up and be big here. I want a ton of kids to go. It's such a neat experience, we need to make it happen."

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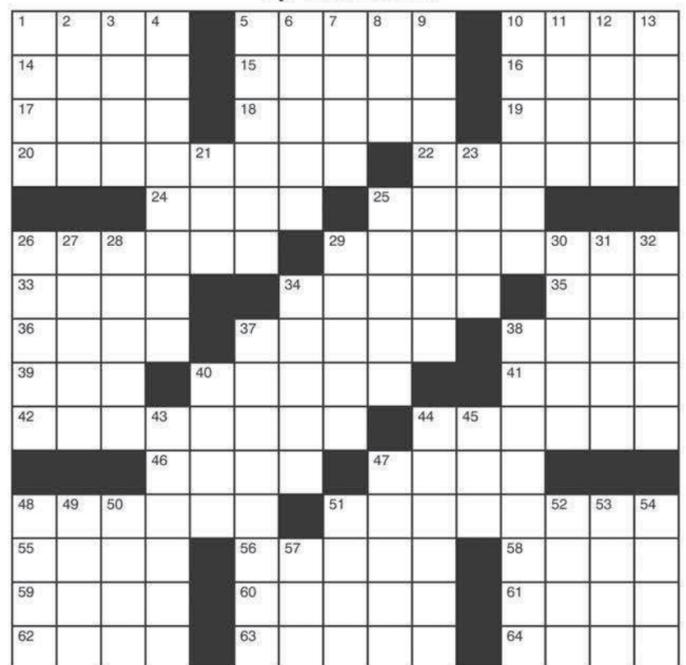
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Up and Down



CREATORS NEWS SERVICE

By Charles Preston

ACROSS

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- 3 Part
- 4 Became lively
- 5 United with
- 6 Havelock ___, author
- 7 Narrow opening
- 8 Spanish aunt
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- 10 Paid attention to
- 11 Turkish regiment
- 12 Venture

- 13 Kiss Me, ___
- 21 Eggs
- 23 Benches
- 25 Jargon
- 26 Publicly conveyed
- 27 Aromatic seed
- 28 Card or board ___
- 29 Twines
- 30 Lifeless
- 31 Scandinavian
- 32 ___ Garson
- 34 Wire nails
- 37 Entertainment of another day
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- 40 Precious
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- 49 Anne Nichols character
- 50 Evil
- 51 But: Fr.
- 52 Frog genus
- 53 English school
- 54 Escritoire
- 57 Epoch